

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 48th Legislature (2001)

SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION 1

By: Milacek

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution requesting the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and certain organizations to terminate and cease entering into certain contracts with and disallow certain activity by credit card issuers; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, access to credit, through direct mail, mass media advertisement, telephone solicitation and other means, may be easier to obtain now than at any time in our history; and

WHEREAS, many young people are given access to credit without adequate education as to the costs and benefits thereof; and

WHEREAS, although most young people who have credit cards use them in a responsible manner, a significant number choose not to do so or are unable to do so, resulting in long-term financial problems; and

WHEREAS, according to the Institute of Higher Education Policy:

1. Nearly two-thirds of college students have one or more credit cards;

2. One in five of those students have four or more credit cards; and

3. Over forty percent of students fail to pay off their credit card balances on a monthly basis; and

WHEREAS, issuers of credit cards commonly provide inducements to recruit college students to fill out credit card applications, often directly on campus with the explicit or implicit consent of school administrators. According to the Public Interest Research Groups, students surveyed who had obtained credit cards at campus tables had

more credit cards and higher unpaid balances than students who had obtained credit cards by other means; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Legislature of the State of Oklahoma that state-supported colleges and universities pursue policies which encourage financial responsibility on the part of their students.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 48TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

1. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and any organizations associated with state-supported higher education institutions are hereby requested to terminate any existing contracts with credit card issuers, and to cease entering into such contracts in the future, and to cease any practices which allow credit card issuers to use space or facilities of a state-supported higher education institution for the purpose of taking applications for credit cards, issuing credit cards, providing merchandise or other inducements in exchange for filling out an application for credit, or otherwise merchandising credit cards, to persons under twenty-one (21) years of age, who are not financially independent, without the express written approval of such person's parent or legal guardian.

2. Copies of this resolution shall be distributed to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the president of each institution of the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.